



A Spiritual Spring Cleaning

It's spring! While you're cleaning out closets and sweeping under the furniture, think about this: Spring cleaning, while worth the effort, will only last for a season, but spiritual cleansing could have an eternal influence. So don't just dust behind those book shelves—get ready for a spiritual spring cleaning.

Cleanse Your Heart: Get Spiritually Healthy. The Bible encourages us to draw close to God and allow our hearts and bodies to be cleansed. This is the first step in our spring cleaning project. We can't clean ourselves. Instead we must draw near to God and ask Him to do the cleansing. (*Psalm 51:10, Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me; Hebrews 10:22, Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.*)

Clean Out Your Mouth: Deep Clean Inside and Out. Spiritual cleansing requires deep cleaning; it is housekeeping that goes beyond what others see and hear. It's a cleansing from within, inside and out. As your heart gets clean, your language should follow. This is not just talking about bad language, but also negative talk and pessimistic thoughts that contradict the Word of God and faith. This includes the challenge to stop complaining. (*Luke 6:45: The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks; Philippians 2:14: Do everything without complaining or arguing...*)

Renew Your Mind: Take Out the Garbage. This is one of the biggest areas of struggle for most of us, removing the garbage from our minds. Garbage in equals garbage out. We must feed our minds and spirits the Word of God instead of the garbage of this world. (*Romans 12:2: Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will; 2 Corinthians 10:5: We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*)

Repent from Hidden Sin: Clean Out Your Spiritual Closets. Hidden sin will destroy your life, your peace, and even your health. The Bible says to confess your sin. When your spiritual closets are clean, the heaviness from hidden sin will lift. (*Psalm 32:3-5: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord"—and you forgave the guilt of my sin.*)

Release Unforgiveness and Bitterness: Get Rid of Old Baggage. Any sin will weigh you down, but long-kept unforgiveness and bitterness is like old baggage in the attic you just can't seem to part with. You are so familiar with it, you don't even realize how it is hindering your life. (*Hebrews 12:1: Therefore...let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily hinders our progress; Ephesians 4:31-32: Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*)

Involve Jesus in Your Daily Life: Let the Son Shine In. What God wants most from you is a relationship. He wants to be involved in the big and small moments of your life. Open your life, let the light of God's presence shine into every part, and you'll have no need for a yearly spiritual cleaning. Instead, experience daily, moment-to-moment refreshing of your spirit. (*1 Corinthians 1:9: God ... is the one who invited you into this wonderful friendship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; Psalm 56:13: For you have rescued me from death; you have kept my feet from slipping. So now I can walk in your presence, O God, in your life-giving light.*)

Learn to Laugh at Yourself and at Life. Some of us take life too seriously, or we take ourselves too seriously. Jesus wants you to enjoy yourself and learn to have some fun. God made you for His pleasure! (*Psalm 28:7: The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song; Psalm 126:2: Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy. Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."*)

Bernie Elliot, Jr.
Assemblies of God National Bible Quiz Coordinator

From: <http://christianity.about.com/od/topicaldevotions/p/springcleaning.htm>

GEPCP SCHOLARSHIP QUESTIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

Coaches—don't miss this piece to the puzzle! The GEPCP Scholarship Questions are an excellent resource for your team as they prepare for official competition over the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon. For a donation of \$100 to the Assemblies of God Bible Quiz scholarship fund, your church can get a preview of the difficulty level of the questions that have been written for National Finals. These questions are drawn from the same pool as the official National Finals questions. Great additional practice questions for all teams at all levels.

Your Scholarship Questions will be sent to you by e-mail as soon as payment is received and processed. To order, go to www.biblequiz.com, download your form, and send the completed form to: Bible Quiz, 1445 N. Boonville Ave., Springfield, MO 65802. You can also send the form by e-mail or fax to bq@ag.org or 417.862.1693, ATTN: Jason.

NATIONAL FINALS DUE DATES FOR EACH REGION

The following are the dates and locations for each of the 2008 Regional Finals competitions. You will need to plan financially and decide **now** if your team(s) will be attending the 2008 National Bible Quiz Finals if making it through Regional competition. Please get your pastor's permission and all parent's permission now in case you will be attending. Teams who do not plan on attending will need to inform their Regional coordinator as soon as possible. If your team places in the top five at your Regional event and you will be attending National Finals, the due date for your team registration paperwork will be as follows:

DISTRICT	REGIONAL DATES	LOCATION	NATIONAL FINALS PAPERWORK MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
Great Lakes	May 9-10, 2008	First Assembly of God, Lexington, KY	May 23, 2008
Gulf	May 2-3, 2008	Journey Fellowship, Slidell, LA	May 16, 2008
North Central	May 16-17, 2008	Park Assembly of God, St. Louis Park, MN	May 23, 2008
Northeast	May 2-3, 2008	First Assembly of God, Harrisburg, PA	May 16, 2008
Northwest	May 9-10, 2008	Ridgeview Christian Center, Spokane, WA	May 23, 2008
South Central	May 2-3, 2008	First Assembly of God, Owasso, OK	May 16, 2008
Southeast	May 17, 2008	Faith Assembly of God, Orlando, FL	May 30, 2008
Southwest	May 2-3, 2008	Timberline Church, Ft. Collins, CO	May 16, 2008

National Finals paperwork will be on a password protected website this year. You will be able to access the Nationals packet and paperwork the same day as your Regional Finals. Your Regional coordinator will be given the password and will let each team attending National Finals know how to access the paperwork. Please know that some of the paperwork will need to be notarized. Line up your appointment with a notary now so that you will be able to meet the deadlines above. Also, if you have not started your fundraising for travel, you will want to start now. If you have any questions, please contact the national Bible Quiz office.

MARK BREAKDOWN AND INFORMATION

What an exciting time as we get ready for a new book in the Bible Quiz cycle—the Gospel of Mark. New products are being developed and people across the country are excited to memorize a new book of God's Word. Start recruiting your students now. For tips on recruiting from coaches around the country, check out "Recruiting Quizzers" under Coaching Tips at www.biblequiz.com. For complete description on each of the products on the next page, go to www.gospelpublishing.com and enter the product number. The breakdown of material for competition will be:

A-League

Meet #1	Chapters 1-5	192 verses
Meet #2	Chapters 6-9	178 verses
Meet #3	Chapters 10-12	128 verses
Meet #4	Chapters 13-16	174 verses

Total: 672 verses

Novice League

Meet #1	Chapters 1-4	149 verses
Meet #2	Chapters 5-6	99 verses
Meet #3	Chapters 7-8	74 verses
Meet #4	Chapters 9-10	100 verses

Total: 422 verses

BQ ADVERTISING

TYLER TURNAGE

Five-time National Finals quizzier and coach, Tyler Turnage, has 40 sets of national-level questions available for \$25. These questions will be a great help for teams preparing for regional and national competition. For more information or to place an order, contact Tyler at thepianomanstill-reigns@yahoo.com.

JOEY BOHANON

National Finals quizzier Joey Bohanon has approximately 1,200 quality concordance questions available for purchase. To purchase or for more information, contact Joey at jbohanon2@gmail.com. Concordance questions in raw form, not in numbered sets. \$30 per team and \$5 for each additional team from the same church using the questions.

2008 RIVER CLASSIC

The River Classic tournament questions (March 2008) are an excellent resource for regional and national preparation.

Seth Sundell
A-division writer

- 20 team sets
- Five one-on-one sets

Brian Lewis
Novice division writer

- 20 team sets
- Five one-on-one sets

50 sets for \$50. To place your order, contact John Porter at jrpibm@aol.com.

MARK PRODUCTS FOR 2008-2009

Many new Mark materials are already completed and are available for order now through Gospel Publishing House. To order, contact GPH Customer Service at 1.800.641.4310 or order online at www.gospelpublishing.com. See below for a complete list of product numbers.

The following products are currently available for order or pre-order:

731-434	Reproducible Score Sheets (downloadable)
731-435	Official Score Sheets
731-702	Mark Scripture Portion
731-703	Mark Scripture Portion with Concordance
731-707	Mark Quote Cards
731-716	BQ Study Pro CD ROM
731-717	BQ Quiz Pro CD ROM
731-718	BQ Question / Writer Pro CD ROM
731-721	BQ Quote Card Holder
731-722	Mark Large Print Portion
731-736	Mark Lapel Pin
731-737	Where Jesus Walked Wall Chart
731-738	Mark Study Guide
731-741	League Pack CD ROM by Aaron Kohler
731-744	Official District, Regional, National CD ROM
731-749	Basic Five CD ROM. Contains Chapter Analysis, Chapter Sampler, Chapter-by-Chapter Questions, Phrase Questions, and Verse-by-Verse* Questions.
731-751	Steven Starr Practice Questions CD ROM
731-754	John Hunter Practice Questions CD ROM*
731-755	Nilay Saiya Practice Questions CD ROM*
731-756	BQ Coach Pro CD ROM
731-800	BQ Interviews (Season Opening Sale \$1!)
731-801	Bible Quiz Official Rules
731-902	Bible Quiz Coach's Manual (newly updated)
080-560	Mark Basic Season Starter Kit
080-559	Mark Deluxe Season Starter Kit

*Question data files compatible with Question / Writer Pro. For a hands-on preview of the Study Pro, Quiz Pro, Question / Writer Pro, and Coach Pro products, go to www.biblebowl.net.



GEPCP DISCIPLESHIP AWARD

All GEPCP Discipleship Award forms and application points must be postmarked by April 9, 2008. **Coaches:** Make sure that your students have fulfilled all requirements. Several application points ask that items be sent to the national Bible Quiz office or the His Story office. The national office will verify that application points have been completed. No exceptions will be made for items not received. If you have any questions, please contact the national Bible Quiz office at 417.862.2781 x4034 or bq@ag.org.

2007-2008 MEMORIZATION AWARD DEADLINE COMING UP

For the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon, all memorization award forms will be due on May 2, 2008. If you have not yet scheduled your quoting service, you must do so now to be able to quote in a service at your local church. This year, acceptable quoting times include a Sunday morning, Sunday evening or a Wednesday evening service. All quoting and other guideline requirements *must* be completed by May 2, 2008. There will be no exceptions for forms that are postmarked or faxed after the deadline. No extensions will be granted. (Please know that several applications for the 2007 memorization awards were denied for those who did not meet the award deadlines.) Only the official National & Master Memorization Award form will be accepted. These forms must be postmarked or faxed no later than May 2, 2008. Forms and guidelines can be found at www.biblequiz.com. Several colleges offer scholarship money for students who earn the memorization awards.



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give back
BQ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Former Bible Quiz quizzers, coaches, and officials giving back to the Bible Quiz community through their time, talents, and finances to impact the futures of Bible Quiz students.

It's not just about raising money... More information on how you can be involved coming soon!

BQ